

Title	Present condition of organization of volunteer fire corps (Abstract in English)
Author(s)	KUWABARA, Tsukasa
Citation	地方中枢広域都市における防災コミュニティの形成過程 に関する研究：仙台市の消防団を中心として
Issue Date	1999-03
URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/10232/8477">http://hdl.handle.net/10232/8477</a>
Rights	第一住宅建設協会

\*鹿児島大学リポジトリに登録されているコンテンツの著作権は、執筆者、出版社（学協会）などが有します。

The copyright of any material deposited in Kagoshima University Repository is retained by the author and the publisher (Academic Society)

\*鹿児島大学リポジトリに登録されているコンテンツの利用については、著作権法に規定されている私的使用や引用などの範囲内で行ってください。

Materials deposited in Kagoshima University Repository must be used for personal use or quotation in accordance with copyright law.

\*著作権法に規定されている私的使用や引用などの範囲を超える利用を行う場合には、著作権者の許諾を得てください。

Further use of a work may infringe copyright. If the material is required for any other purpose, you must seek and obtain permission from the copyright owner.

**Study on Volunteer Fire Corps (*Shobodan*) and Its Role in the  
Process of Community Building  
for Disaster Prevention**  
- The Case of Sendai City -

**Introduction**

**Chapter 1 Development Process of Sendai City Volunteer Fire Corps**

1. History of Volunteer Fire Corps
2. Urbanization and the Changing of Volunteer Fire Corps

**Chapter 2 Structure and Function of Volunteer Fire Corps**

1. Organization of Fire Department and Volunteer Fire Corps
2. Present Condition of Organization of Volunteer Fire Corps
3. Present Condition of Activities of Volunteer Fire Corps
4. Volunteer Fire Corps from the point of view of the Citizens and  
Consciousness of the Members of Volunteer Fire Corps

**Chapter 3 Local Disaster Prevention System and Volunteer Fire Corps**

1. Sendai City Disaster Prevention System
2. Position of Volunteer Fire Corps in Local Disaster Prevention System
3. Community Building for Disaster Prevention and Volunteer Fire Corps

**Chapter 4 Local Culture and Volunteer Fire Corps**

1. Tradition of Fire-Fighting
2. Volunteer Fire Corps and the Citizens

**Conclusion**

## **Chapter 2 Structure and Function of Volunteer Fire Corps**

## 2. Present Condition of Organization of Volunteer Fire Corps

In the case of Sendai City, the Volunteer Fire Corps organization consists of 7 corps, according to 7 wards in Sendai, which are Aoba-ward, Miyagino-ward, Wakabayashi-ward, Taihaku-ward, Izumi-ward, Miyagi-ward, and Akiu-ward. Each has its own main office. Furthermore, sub-corps are set-up under each corps which reaches the total number of 57 sub-corps in Sendai city. Each main office has three divisions, which are division of general affairs, division of fire/disaster prevention, and division of inspection. While each sub-corps has five units, which are general affairs unit, fire/disaster prevention unit, fire fighting unit, flood protection unit, and citizens relief unit. Member of Fire

Volunteer Corps can be classified in full-time officer (member) and part-time officer (member). Whereas in the case of Sendai city, all members are part-time members. There are seven rank of memberships, leader of corps (*Dan-chō*), vice-leader of corps (*Fukudan-chō*), leader of sub-corps (*Bundan-chō*), vice-leader of sub-corps (*Fuku Bundan-chō*), unit leader (*Bu-chō*), group leader (*Han-chō*), and member (*Dan-in*).

At present, the Volunteer Fire Corps of Sendai city is facing the problem of declining number of member and shortage of successors for the corps. To eliminate these problems, the treatment towards member is to be improved, while the schedule for activities is to be changed from weekdays to weekends. In regard of the shortage of successors for the corps, this problem has been growing as a serious problem, since the average age of member of the corps is elevating and the number of younger people to become member of the corps is declining. For the solution of the problem, apart from two objective efforts mentioned above, the Volunteer Fire Corps needs to improve its 'old-fashioned, and isolated' image, and try to form image which appeals to younger generation.